

McNairy County Independent

Volume XX.

SELMER, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1922

Number 31

COUNTY AGENT'S ITEMS

W. T. McKELL, County Agent

Set every hen possible. Early chickens bring the best prices, are the healthiest, and by far the easiest raised.

Breed your sows for spring litters of pigs. Spring pigs are always easier to grow out than pigs coming in summer or winter.

Clean out the stables and barn lots; scrape up all the manure possible and spread on those thin places in the field. Stable manure is the best fertilizer known.

Milk cows should be bred now so as to freshen in the fall. By having them come fresh in the fall we have plenty of milk and butter when these products are scarce and high in price.

Open up the ditches that have grown over or filled in with sand; open new ones across those wet places; stop those washes before they get worse; stop some of those ugly gullies by cutting brush in them, planting black locust, honeysuckle and cudzu.

Don't forget that February 20 has been set as the closing date for receiving orders in the state fertilizer pool. If you expect to take advantage of this pool you must get your orders into the county agent's office on or before that date. You can get blanks by calling on the county agent.

Be sure that you have a full supply of good seed of all kinds for the planting of your crop. All seed should be of the very best possible to obtain. If possible, get enough Express cotton seed, the adopted standard for the county, to plant enough to make a bale of cotton. Give it a fair test and compare it with the other varieties grown and see which will give the greatest money returns per acre.

With the prospect of a heavy infestation of boll weevils this year it is almost necessary to use some fertilizer under every acre of cotton. If we are to make a crop of cotton we must make it early. Fertilizer will do much to hasten the early growth and also to make it fruit early. A few dollars spent for fertilizers may mean a crop of cotton.

Several things to do on the farm this month.

Get the garden in better shape. Clean up and burn trash and weeds that may possibly harbor diseases and insects injurious to garden plants.

Prune and clean up the orchard. Get it in shape for the dormant spray. This spray should be given before the buds swell.

Mr. G. L. Herrington, State Club leader, made a visit to McNairy county last Wednesday in the interest of the Boys' and Girls' Club work. He visited the schools at Finger and Bethel and made very interesting talks. In the afternoon he visited the club at Ramer and assisted in the completion of that club. The following officers were elected for this year: President, Eugene Barnes; vice-president, J. B. Teague; secretary, Allen Key. The first Wednesday of each month was set for the meetings. This club has a membership of 25 to begin with. Besides a good membership they have a great deal of enthusiasm and start out with the determination to become the best club in the county.

TALKS TO FARMERS

THOS. F. PECK, Commissioner of Agriculture

Economic Entomology

In Agriculture

Note.—The following article on Entomology was prepared by G. M. Bentley, State Entomologist, and is of timely interest.

In earlier days entomology was looked upon as a pastime for the spare moments of those who cared to turn their attention to it or as a business confined to dusty museums, without any practical application whatever; the true significance of the study was not then apparent.

Gradually the practical side developed and has since continued to develop until at the present time economic entomology is recognized by agriculturists as an important adjunct to the study of the actual crop production.

It has been estimated that on the average ten per cent of every crop is a total loss due to the ravages of insect pests. A large part of this damage is so constant, is produced by insects so inconspicuous or hidden, so scattered over large areas or various seasons, that the agriculturist may not know of its existence, or at any rate, does not figure it other than as a perfectly normal factor in crop production.

On the other hand, there are pests like the locusts in the Philippines, like the chinch bug of the grain belt of the United States, like the tse-tse fly of Africa, whose depredations are so marked that it is impossible not to recognize them for what they are.

Midway between these two extremes is a vast assemblage of insect pests, some sporadic or local in their outbreaks, but all of them injurious or capable of becoming injurious. It is with all of these, including both extremes, that economic entomology has to deal, as well as with other insects forms which, although not pests, are yet of practical importance.

The problem is a large one. The number of different species of insects has been placed at somewhat approaching two million. Many of these are very restricted in their habitat; some of them are cosmopolitan. They must be classified and named, for in the knowledge of the relationships of animals very often comes a clue to the best manner of combatting them.

Exhaustive studies in the laboratory and field with parasites and predaceous enemies, studies frequently requiring investigations carried around the world, must be made to determine what natural checks may work upon the pest. The results of meteorological changes to insect life must be understood. Chemicals must be tried out to find their effectiveness as insect sprays, and the possibilities of cultural methods or farm practice for the control of pests most studied. Finally the results of all this work must be arranged, tabulated, weighed and put before the public.

In 1868 there was introduced into California upon some trees imported from a foreign country, a species of scale insect which spread itself over the State and twenty years later was so prevalent and abundant that it threatened to destroy the citrus industry of that region. It was learned that the scale was a native of Australia and that in Australia a certain ladybird beetle was active in suppressing it. Some of these beetles were introduced, bred and distributed throughout the citrus groves of the State and so efficiently did

they operate that the scale was brought under control and has never since become a menace in that region.

The Hessian fly is a serious enemy of wheat and where its attacks are pronounced it sometimes destroys whole fields of that cereal before they have much more than begun their growth. A study of the life history of this species revealed the fact that the adults of this fly appear at certain definite seasons, and lay their eggs in the wheat plants. Working from this point it was found that if the wheat is not planted until after the flies have made their appearance, the insects are forced to seek other grasses and by the time the wheat is above the ground the danger from this source is past.

The campaign against the cotton-boll weevil in the Gulf States is still progressing, and is beginning to show definite results.

The phylloxera in Europe, the San Jose scale in America, the migratory locust of the Western United States and of certain parts of Asia, the warfare against these is continuous and still the pests are present. Nevertheless, if the efforts which are being expended against them should cease, the result would be incalculable loss to the agricultural activities of the world.

Thos. G. Williams Dead

Thos. G. Williams, son of J. T. Williams of the Mt. Vernon neighborhood, and for several years a teacher in the public schools of this county, and a most exemplary young man, died last week at his home in Sheffield, Ala., where he was a city mail carrier.

Following is an account of his death which appeared in the Sheffield newspaper:

Thos. G. Williams, city letter carrier in the Sheffield postoffice, died at his home on 26th street late yesterday afternoon, death resulting from pneumonia which had its inception early last week, and from which he never rallied after being stricken.

Mr. Williams is survived by his wife and three small children; also by his father and mother, two brothers and four sisters, all of whom were with him during his illness except one brother and three sisters, having come from their homes in Stantonville, Tenn.

The funeral services were conducted at the residence this morning at 10 o'clock, by Rev. W. C. Clark, assisted by Dr. Martin of Florence; interment taking place in Oakwood cemetery. Many friends were present at the services, and among the floral offerings was one from the postmaster and employees' personnel of the post office. The bereaved family has the sympathy of the entire community.

The pallbearers were: E. V. Strygley, O. A. Williams, Elliot Murphy, Cole Jefferies, A. P. Scroggin and Robert Mitchell, employees of the Sheffield postoffice. By reason of his position he was known to a large number of this city's people. Tribute was paid him today by Postmaster Little as follows:

"Everyone of us in the postoffice is greatly grieved over the untimely death of Thos. G. Williams. When he complained of being ill last week none of us suspected that he had been stricken with pneumonia. He was relieved of duty in spite of his own desire to remain at work. He had worked valiantly during the holiday period and during the recent bad weather and no doubt he had overtaxed himself.

"It seems prophetic that death should have overtaken Mr. Williams just at a time immediately following his affirmation as a regular carrier after having served his probationary period of six months in the local office. Our records show that not a complaint had come from anyone about his work, but on the other hand innumerable people, residents on

the route he served, had taken occasion to speak a kindly and complimentary word about the painstaking service he was giving.

"He was faithful and uncomplaining and greatly loved his work. We are grieved, and we shall miss him."

Baptist Meeting

Rev. Vermillion, the evangelist from Jackson, has been preaching to large audiences this week. On account of the Baptist church being so small to sent the crowds, the services since Sunday have been held at the Methodist church. There is preaching in some of the business houses in Selmer every afternoon at 3 o'clock and services at the church at 6:45 p. m. Rev. Vermillion is an eloquent and able minister and his sermons are well received in Selmer. The meeting will probably close this week.

Stantonville

Health is very good in this section.

J. O. Hoover was in Selmer on business Saturday.

Mrs. John W. Boshart has been very sick for the past few weeks.

A baby girl arrived in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Carroll Friday.

Richard L. Stanley of Adamsville was in town on business Saturday.

Dr. E. G. Sanders will leave Monday for New Orleans to attend school for about three months.

H. W. Wilson spent the weekend with his parents near Adamsville.

Misses Victoria and Ephie Bell, who are attending school here, spent the week-end with their parents near Shiloh. They were accompanied by Miss Elsie Fullbright and E. T. Morris.

Mrs. E. G. Sanders and mother, Mrs. J. T. Williams, have returned from Sheffield, Ala., where they attended the funeral of their son and brother, Thos. G. Williams, who died last Wednesday from pneumonia.

C. M. Hoover of Adamsville spent Saturday night with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Hoover, and family.

John H. Moffet spent Saturday and Sunday with home folks. Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Surrat are rejoicing over the arrival of a boy Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Hurst and family are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd L. Carroll this week.

Morley School House

Be sure to come to the play at Morley's Saturday night, Feb. 4. There will be songs, recitations, a list of short plays and a one-hour play, "Out in the Streets." Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hendrix of Enville have been visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Baucum, and Alex. Hendrix.

Sam Brown and Miss Vergie Milford were married Sunday.

Miss Elsie Jackson spent Sunday with Miss Johnnie Lea Combs. Miss Viola Hendrix spent Sunday with Misses Eulah and Jewel Patterson.

Mrs. Lou Findley of Leapwood was here to see her mother, Mrs. L. A. Baucum, who has been confined to her bed for over two years.

E. O. Jackson and daughter Exia and little son Hayes and C. L. Barham were shopping in Finger Saturday.

Michigan celery, apples, oranges, prunes, California dried fruit, pure apple vinegar, and everything good to eat.

Selmer Grocery Co.

Bethel Springs

Health is very good, and only one or two persons are on the sick list this week.

W. F. Moore, the carpenter, is building a new home for Dannie McCaskill.

There is soon to be an addition built to the Presbyterian church here in order to take care of the large Sunday school.

R. N. Hester has purchased a large farm south of Selmer and will probably move to same in a short time.

H. E. Wilson is now located in his new store next to the postoffice.

We regret to note the continued feebleness of Mr. Basham. He is confined to his room at the home of his son, Geo. Basham.

Henry Cline and wife are now residents of our town. Mr. Cline is taking vocational training in F. D. Jones' garage.

The Bethel Springs High School under the management of Prof. H. B. Evans, assisted by an able corps of teachers, is progressing nicely.

It will soon be time for the candidates to begin to renew their claims among the dear people, and it would be a splendid thing if the voters will only exercise a little good horse sense in selecting their public servants.

Esq. R. F. Lewis and wife are visiting in South Georgia.

J. M. Hartman is now a full-fledged dairyman, milking ten cows and shipping the products to St. Louis and other markets.

Headquarters American Forces in Germany

Coblenz, December 25, 1921.

MR. H. B. LEWIS,

Bethel Springs, Tenn.

My Dear Father:

I will write to you on this Xmas Day and let you know that I have not forgotten you.

I am working in the office all alone this morning and I must stay here until 12 o'clock noon, and then, I think, I will go up to my girl's home and spend the rest of the day.

I hope that you all have a happy Xmas and am sorry that I can't be with you this time, but I am hoping to be with you very soon.

It is 9 o'clock and all the Germans have church all day. The bells are ringing so loud now that I can hardly hear myself think. I was in church this morning at 1 o'clock and am going again at 4 this afternoon.

Papa, I have a real home here in Coblenz; and all of the people here like me, too. They all speak American and are so nice, I just feel as if I were in America every time I go there.

They gave me a great Xmas present. It cost 900 marks. I don't know how I will bring it to America. It is a large picture and it certainly is great. When you see it, you will not wonder why I want to stay in Coblenz.

I wrote a letter to you a short time back and I presume that you have received it by now. I sent it through the German mail and I think that the Germans give fair enough postal service.

Well, father, I do not know of any news that would be of interest to you, so I will close by saying good-bye and I am sending my best regards to all and wish you all a Merry Xmas.

I remain as ever,

Your son,

THOS. H. LEWIS,

Provisional Military Company

American Forces in Germany

Come in and renew your paper

Guys

L. M. Huggins, who has been a citizen of Guys for more than twelve years, is leaving this week for Fentress, Miss., where he expects to engage in the mercantile business for himself. Lee has been engaged, while here, by Houston Bros. & Hamm. He has made as many friends here as he has acquaintances and everybody regrets very much for him to leave, and all hope for him and his family much prosperity and happiness in their new home.

Mrs. Johnnie A. Lawson visited relatives here on Sunday.

Mrs. Daisy Hamm spent Monday in Corinth.

Mrs. Lillie Dismukes spent last week-end with home folk at Bethel Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Huggins of the Gravelhill community, spent Tuesday in the home of L. M. Huggins.

Geo. T. Sharp was a business visitor to Florence, Ala., first of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Mitchell and Edwin, Jr., visited Squire J. L. Meeks Saturday and Sunday.

W. V. Miller's little son, Jack, is very low with appendicitis.

Mrs. W. H. James visited her daughter, Mrs. J. W. White, at Aberdeen, Miss., the latter part of last week.

M. M. Lewis, after several years' absence, has resumed his barber business here and is kept busy on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Read the ads in this issue.

Shady Grove

After spending several days with relatives and friends near Hunter's Store, Otto Teague is back playing basket ball with the school boys.

Jobe, Johnnie and Buddie Teague sold more than \$400.00 worth of hogs to the Selmer buyers this week.

Mrs. Mary Chenault, who was stricken with a light stroke of paralysis some time ago, seems to improve slowly. It is feared, that, because of her age, she will never be entirely well again.

Vonley McCoy was visiting among the young people of Gravelhill Sunday.

J. J. Teague, of Ramer, spent Monday with his father and other relatives here, and carried a fine hog home with him that he bought from W. P. McMahan.

Elmer Robinson, of Ramer, was through here recently looking for hogs, but had let the Selmer buyers get ahead of him.

Willie McMahan, Johnnie Teague and Tommie Baker were in Selmer Monday.

Misses Pearl and Ethel McMahan are spending a few days with their cousin, Mrs. Lessie McCoy, of Ramer.

We understand J. W. McCoy has contracted for a sawmill outfit and contemplates hauling it from Corinth as soon as the road will permit. J. W. has a nice bunch of timber and he says he needs something for him and his boys to be doing.

It was with deep regret that we learned of the death of Tom G. Williams, of Sheffield, Ala. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Williams, of this place, and his many friends will regret to learn of his death. We extend our sympathy to the parents and other relatives and friends.

Misses Arbie and Jewel McCoy were visiting in the Mt. Vernon community Sunday.

After seeing so many days of cloudy and cold weather, today (Monday), seems like a real spring day. Here's hoping for several more days like this one.